

Remarks/Arguments

The present amendment is made in response to the non-final Office Action dated April 6, 2006, and identified as Paper No. 20060331. Claims 6-10 are pending.

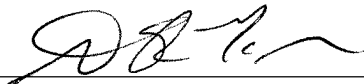
In the Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,131,780 to Becker ("*Becker*") in view of U.S. Patents Nos. 2,841,349 to Charles ("*Charles*") and 3,063,590 to Hopkins ("*Hopkins*"). Claims 3-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over *Becker*, *Charles*, and *Hopkins*, in further view of U.S. Patent No. 1,497,740 to Schenkein ("*Schenkein*"). Claims 6-10 were objected to as dependent from a rejected claim, but otherwise allowable.

Applicant has cancelled claims 1-5 without prejudice to Applicant's right to present the claims in a continuing application. Claim 6 has been amended to include all of the limitation of the base claim (and any intervening claims). Accordingly, claims 6-10 are believed to be in condition for allowance. Applicant grants authorization to charge any fees in regard to this response to Deposit Account No. 50-1546.

In view of the foregoing, the Examiner's reconsideration and allowance of the claims of the present application is believed to be in order. If the Examiner believes a phone conference with Applicant's attorney would expedite prosecution of this application, please contact the undersigned at (315) 218-8515.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: April 28, 2006

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